[Translation]

Rail Line between Bhatinda and Kandla

2118. SHRI MAHESH KUMAR M. KANODIA : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether any survey has been conducted for laying rail line between Bhatinda and Kandla; and

(b) if so, the details therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) and (b). Study for provision of a BG rail route from Bhatinda to Kandla was conducted in 1989-90. Based on this study, the work was included in the budget 1990-91. The work consisted of gauge conversion of Lalgarh-Bikaner-Merta Road-Jodhpur-Samdari-Bhildi, Patna-Chanasma-Pechraji and Viramgam and new line from Bhildi to Patan. Leter, when gauge converion of Delhi-Ahmedabad was started in 1992-93, it was decided to provide Kandla-Bhatinda BG rail route via Viramgam-Mehesana-Jodhpur-Bikaner-Bhatinda. Work on Lalgarh-Bikaner-Merta Road-Jodhpur has been completed and work on Jodhpur-Luni-Samdari-Bhildi-Mahesana-Viramgam is in progress and is targetted for completion within this financial year. With the completion of this work, there will be direct rail line from Bhatinda to Kandla.

[English]

Area Under Oilseeds

2119. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to increase the areas under the oilseeds cultivation in Orissa;

(b) if so, the steps taken in that direction; and

(c) the target sets and achievements made in this regard during the Eighth Five year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Based on the information supplied by Govt. of Orissa, the area increase programme have been planned under groundnut through crop substitution in Kharif, Rabi and summer season (irrigated conditions in command areas) under soyabean in Kharif and under mustard in Rabi season. The area increase programme are basically based on crop substitution, inter cropping, multiple cropping and replacement of uneconomic crops.

(c) The area targets and achievements are as under:

Area in 000 ha.

Year	Target	Achievement
1	2	3
1992-93	1251	1092
1993-94	1220	1116
1994-95	1242	1121
1995-96	1290	1146
1996-97	1378	Sowing in progress

Conversion of Metre Gauge into Broad Gauge

2120. SHRI N.S.V. CHITTHAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) the time by which the broad gauge conversion of Dindigual to Trichi is likely to be completed; and

(b) the total allocation of funds for the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) By March'98 as per present indications.

(b) Rs. 15.41 crores till 1996-97.

Modernisation of Nagpur Railway Station

2121. SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have formulated any plans for the modernisation of the Nagpur Railway Station;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the rush of passengers have increased manifold during the past few years at Nagpur railway station; and

(d) if so, the concrete steps proposed to be taken by the Government to provide basic minimum facilities at the Nagpur Railway Station?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A work comprising widening of platforms, provision of additional retiring rooms, provision of escalators, extension of platform shelter, augmentation of toilet facilities, enlargement and improvement of circulating area etc. has been sanctioned this year at an estimated cost of Rs. 335.50 lakh.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Malpe Fishing Harbour-II

2122. SHRI OSCAR FARNANDES : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) whether proposal has been received from the Government of Karnataka for clearance of the Malpe Fishing Harbour-II in the State;